

16 March 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Likelihood and Consequences of a UAR Occupation of Aden after the British Withdraw in 1968

REFERENCE: Our Conversation at Lunch

1. During the Board's discussion of Devlin's memo on Yemen reference was made to a British appreciation of the possibility of an Egyptian military occupation of Aden a copy of which is attached). I understood (misunderstood) that this subject would be covered in a revised version of Devlin's memo. Instead, Kent's comments on Critchfield's memo were constructed on the basis of the Board's discussion of Critchfield's thesis and Devlin's memo, only slightly revised, was attached as partial backup. Devlin's memo was limited strictly to the situation in Yemen and did not address the prospects in South Arabia or the broader aspects of UAR-Saudi relations.

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3. My comments, reflecting Board discussion, were much stronger. I said that the Egyptian army, coming to the support of the Adeni townsmen, would have no difficulty in reaching, occupying, and holding Aden, but that it would be incapable of controlling much of the countryside. Thus the existing situation in and with respect to Yemen would simply be extended to include Aden.

4. Our latest pronouncement on the outlook for South Arabia is NIE 30-1-66, 8 September 1966. It concludes that the South Arabian Federation will not long survive the British withdrawal in 1968, but goes no farther than that.

LUDWELL L. MONTAGUE
Board of National Estimates

D/NE-DR. Kent 3/14/67

Sherman,

The conversation at lunch the other day in which I said Devlin's paper gave rather scant treatment to the UAR actions re pull out of Brits from Aden.

I've read it again and still don't find anything so strong as Mokty's statement that UAR would take ADEN and practically nothing about South Arabia.

Were Mokty and I talking about the same paper?



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Remarks:					
Please note the DDCI's attached comment:					
"Sherm,					
"Re conversation at lunch the other day in which I said Devlin's paper gave rather scant treatment to the UAR actions re pullout of Brits from Aden.					
"I've read it again and still don't find anything so strong as Monty's statement that UAR would take Aden and practically nothing about South Arabia.					
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"Were Monty and I talking about the same
paper?"

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